

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10/26/2020

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## MEDIA RELEASE

## Health Department Hosting Free Walk-In Flu Vaccination Clinic

**Topeka, Kan.** – The Shawnee County Health Department (SCHD) will be hosting a **FREE** walk-in flu vaccination clinic on Thursday October 29<sup>th</sup> at the SCHD main location. **This clinic is open to anyone 6 months and older.** The date and time for the clinic are as follows:

Date: Thursday October 29, 2020 Time: 4:00 – 6:30pm Location: SCHD - 2600 SW East Circle Dr., Topeka, KS 66606: Training Room A/B

No appointment is necessary for this walk-in clinic. Consent forms and Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) are available in both English and Spanish on the <u>SCHD-Immunizations webpage</u> that can be printed and filled out prior to arrival. Consent and VIS forms will also be available onsite.

Everyone entering the building over the age of 2 must wear a mask. Masks will be available at the building entrance. Please bring only those needed to receive vaccinations in order to help limit the number of individuals in the facility at a time.

This year's vaccination protects against 4 strains of seasonal flu. The flu shot will cause antibodies to develop in the body after vaccination. These antibodies provide protection against infection from the flu virus. During the <u>2019-2020</u> flu season CDC estimates there were 38 million flu illnesses, 18 million flu-associated medical visits, 400,000 flu hospitalizations and 22,000 flu-associated deaths.

CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older be vaccinated against flu. This year, especially, it will be most important to protect those at higher risk for flu complications. Many of these people are also at high risk for COVID-19 illness or serious outcomes. It is also important for caregivers and essential workers to protect themselves and those around them from flu by getting a flu vaccine.

For more information about getting a flu vaccine from the SCHD call 251-5700.

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Shawnee County Health Department is committed to working in partnership with our community to promote and protect the optimal health of all people by bridging gaps to eliminate health inequities, respecting the diversity of our community, through adaptive and innovative processes.

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